

House Resolution No. 1365

Whereas, it is with saddened hearts that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause in their diverse legislative duties to pay their final respects to a very brave and true American military hero, Sergeant Donald R. Walters of the 507th Maintenance Company; and

Whereas, Donald Walters served in the United States Army from his enlistment on October 12, 1988, until his honorable discharge during April 1994, after which time he served in the United States Army Reserves beginning in May 1996; and

Whereas, reinstated to active duty in July 2002, Sergeant Walters was the First Cook in the 507th Maintenance Company which was assigned to support a Patriot Missile Battalion under the command of Brigadier General Howard B. Bromberg of the 32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command headquartered at Fort Bliss, Texas; and

Whereas, after receiving orders to deploy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom on January 9, 2003, Sergeant Walters and his unit arrived in Kuwait on February 20, crossed into southern Iraq on March 20, and were attacked by Iraqi military forces on March 23 after their thirty-three-person convoy made a wrong turn while moving through the outskirts of An Nasiriyah; and

Whereas, the first of eleven American soldiers killed during the hour-long battle, Sergeant Walters is believed to be the “blonde” mentioned in Iraqi radio transmissions as putting up fierce resistance; and

Whereas, Sergeant Walters was posthumously awarded the Silver Star and the Purple Heart for his actions in combat during which seven soldiers were taken Prisoner of War and nine of twenty-two survivors were wounded in action; and

Whereas, Sergeant Walters leaves behind his beloved wife, Stacie Walters, and their twenty-one-month-old daughter, Amber:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to salute Sergeant Donald Walters with deep gratitude in recognition of the ultimate sacrifice he made in service to his country and to convey our most heartfelt condolences to his surviving family members, friends, and colleagues who now miss his considerable warmth and light in their daily lives; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in memory of Sergeant Donald Walters of the 507th Maintenance Company.

Offered by _____
Representative Rob Schaaf
District No. 28

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 1365, adopted March 31, 2004.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker